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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1942.

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ST. ALBANS;  
PRINTED BY H. A. RICHARDSON, LTD., 5 HIGH STREET.

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To the Chairman and Members of the  
St. Albans Rural District Council.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

We have the honour to present to you our Annual  
Report for the year 1942.

**General Statistics.**

Area (acres), 3.157.

Population (estimated), 26,660.

Rateable Value, £165,111.

Sum represented by penny Rate, £663.

Birth rate per 1,000 population, 15.1.

Death rate per 1,000 population, 8.1.

Deaths under one year per 1,000 births, 40.

### Mortality Table.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ... ..	...	...	...
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	6	6	12
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	...	...	...
Syphilitic Diseases ... ..	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	1	1
Measles ... ..	...	...	...
Encephalitis lethargica ... ..	...	...	...
Cancer ... ..	17	12	29
Intracranial Vascular lesions ..	8	14	22
Heart Disease ... ..	32	31	63
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	1	...	1
Bronchitis ... ..	8	4	12
Pneumonia ... ..	4	4	8
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	...	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	2	...	2
Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years) ..	...	...	...
Appendicitis ... ..	3	1	4
Other Digestive Diseases .. ..	5	4	9
Nephritis ... ..	4	5	9
Puerperal Sepsis, &c. ... ..	...	...	..
Premature Birth ... ..	2	4	6
Congenital Malformation ... ..	3	4	7
Suicide ... ..	1	1	2
Accidents ... ..	2	3	5
Other Violent Causes... ..	4	1	5
Cerebrospinal Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	...	1
Diabetes... ..	...	1	1
All other Causes ... ..	7	10	17
All Causes .. ..	170	107	217

## Infant Mortality.

Of the 16 deaths of infants under one year 13 were due to Premature Birth and Congenital Defects.

## Notification of Infectious Diseases during the Year.

DISEASES.	Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital
Diphtheria ... ..	7	7
Scarlet Fever ... ..	30	21
Pneumonia ... ..	9	...
Erysipelas ... ..	1	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...
Fleyner Dysentery ... ..	19	19
Cerebro Spinal Fever ... ..	2	2
Whooping Cough ... ..	13	...
Measles ... ..	61	1
Enteric Fever ... ..	1	1
Pulmonary T B. ... ..	24	...
Non-Pulmonary T.B. ... ..	14	...
Total ... ..	182	51



## Measles and Whooping Cough.

During the latter part of the year there have been epidemics of both Measles and Whooping Cough, the former being the more widespread.

## Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	1	2	2	2	...	...	...	...
10	1	...	4	2	...	1	...	...
15	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...
20	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
25	2	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
35	2	2	...	...	1	2	...	...
45	5	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
55	1	1	1	...	2	1	...	...
65	..	1	...	1	1	...	...	...
Totals .	13	11	8	6	6	6	...	...

## Diphtheria Immunisation.

During 1942, 977 children were immunised against Diphtheria. 585 of these children were under school age and 392 between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

## Sanitary Administration

### Moveable Dwellings.

The unsatisfactory conditions arising from the stationing of moveable dwellings in one part of the area has been a matter of some concern and a greater measure of control over such dwellings was considered desirable. Accordingly, upon the application of the Council, the Minister of Health issued an order known as the St. Albans Rural (Moveable Dwellings and Camping Grounds) Order, 1942, declaring Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to be in force in the Rural District of St. Albans as from the 1st August, 1942, and repealing certain sections of the Hertfordshire County Council Act, 1935, relating to moveable dwellings as respects the District. These new powers, though not by any means easy to administer, should do something towards effectively controlling existing camping grounds and discouraging the establishment of new camping grounds in any part of the District where the conditions are unsuitable or where the amenities are likely to be prejudicially affected.

### Milk Supply.

There are 61 registered Cowsheds in the District, located as follows :—

<i>Parish.</i>			
Harpenden Rural	...	...	4
Redbourn ...	...	...	13
St. Michael's Rural	...	...	6
St. Peter's Rural	...	...	7
St. Stephen's Rural	...	...	11
Sandridge ...	...	...	11
Wheathampstead	...	...	9



As was to be expected, little in the way of reconditioning old buildings or the provision of new buildings was possible. But while buildings and equipment should be maintained at a reasonable standard, the methods employed must always conform to the very best practice if satisfactory results are to be achieved. The regular sampling of all milk as envisaged under the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme will undoubtedly have a beneficial effect in emphasising the paramount importance of constant attention to detail.

The following licences are in force under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 :—

<i>Designation.</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Licensing Authority.</i>
Tuberculin Tested Milk (Production of)	... 8 ...	County Council,
Accredited Milk (Production of)	... 18 ...	County Council.
Dealer's Licence in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk	... 3 ...	Sanitary Authority.
Supplementary Licence re- specting sale of Pasteur- ised Milk	... 3 ...	Sanitary Authority.
Supplementary Licence re- specting sale of Accredited Milk	... 2 ...	Sanitary Authority.

### Meat Inspection.

During the year the carcasses of 13,518 animals were inspected at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Sandridge.

Details are as follows :—

	Cattle.	Sheep,	Calves.	Pigs.
Carcases inspected ...	3,640	7,725	1,554	599

### Condemnations.

	Carcases	Quarters of Beef	Head and Tongues	Livers	Lights	Plucks
Cattle ... ..	28	11	223	576	435	..
Sheep ... ..	...	...	...	57	...	8
Calves... ..	1	...	2	...	...	9
Pigs ... ..	4	...	25	11	...	15

We are,

Your obedient servants,

RICHARD PATON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

DAVID J. GRAHAM, M.S.I.A., M.R.SAN.I.,  
*Sanitary Inspector.*



